

Message Text

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TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS STATE 279328

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ECIN

SUBJECT: UNCTAD TUNGSTEN COMMITTEE DOCUMENTATION

1. DEPARTMENT WAS SURPRISED TO RECEIVE RECENTLY AN UNCTAD DOCUMENT ENTITLED QUOTE DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY BOLIVIA ON BEHALF OF TUNGSTEN EXPORTING COUNTRIES END QUOTE. DOCUMENT IS NUMBERED TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/L.4 AND THUS PURPORTS TO BE ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE COMMITTEE ON TUNGSTEN.

2. ON NOVEMBER 19, THE FIRST DAY OF THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE TUNGSTEN COMMITTEE, THE BOLIVIAN DELEGATE (CARLOS ITURRALDE) INFORMALLY DISTRIBUTED A DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH, AFTER BRIEF DISCUSSION, WAS REFERRED TO A CONTACT GROUP. IN SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS IN THE CONTACT GROUP AND UNCLASSIFIED

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IN PLENARY SESSION, THE EXPORTING COUNTRIES AGREED TO

WITHDRAW THE RESOLUTION AND TO ADOPT INSTEAD THE STATEMENT OF CONCLUSIONS RECORDED IN SECTION SIX OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TUNGSTEN (TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/10). THE DRAFT RESOLUTION NEVER SURFACED FROM THE CONTACT GROUP AND WAS NEVER ISSUED AS A CONFERENCE DOCUMENT DURING THE SESSION OF THE TUNGSTEN COMMITTEE.

3. IN REACHING THESE CONCLUSIONS, ALL PARTIES WERE FULLY AWARE OF THE IMPORT OF THE TWO ALTERNATIVES: EITHER REFERRING THE QUESTION OF A STABILIZATION ARRANGEMENT TO

THE COMMITTEE ON COMMODITIES OR CONTINUING CONSIDERATION IN THE TUNGSTEN COMMITTEE. THEY CHOSE THE LATTER COURSE. THEY DID SO IN A SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE, AND THE DISCUSSIONS WERE CONCLUDED IN HARMONY.

4. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS THE FORMAL DISTRIBUTION BY THE SECRETARIAT OF THE DEFUNCT DRAFT RESOLUTION, WITH A DECEMBER 2 DATE, TO BE HIGHLY IRREGULAR AND IMPROPER AND REQUESTS THAT THE MISSION REQUEST THE SECRETARIAT, FOR THE REASONS STATED ABOVE, TO WITHDRAW AND CANCEL THE DOCUMENT IN QUESTION. PRESUMABLY THIS WOULD REQUIRE ISSUING A REV. 1 DOCUMENT WHICH WOULD NOTE THE FACT THAT THE DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS NOT ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WAS INSTEAD WITHDRAWN BY THE PROPONENTS.

5. AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE MAY WISH TO BRING THE FOREGOING TO THE ATTENTION OF MR. J. VAN DIEST OF THE GON MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE UNCTAD TUNGSTEN COMMITTEE.

6. MISSION GENEVA MIGHT ALSO DISCUSS FOREGOING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF FRG, FRANCE AND JAPAN AND SUGGEST THAT THEY MAY ALSO WISH TO MAKE SIMILAR DEMARCHE TO SECRETARIAT. SISCO

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